

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2008***

Present: Selectmen Wes Moore, Michael Woodworth, and Rosanne Gilbert; Sue McKinnon; Chief Reed and Lt. Gould of the Police Department; Jamie Thompson and Michael Kahlke of the Budget Advisory Committee; and Nancy Spencer.

The meeting was called to order at 6:28pm by Wes Moore.

Sue was asked for her opinion on eliminating the Inventory Forms. As it is a lot of work for the office staff to send the forms out and process them upon their return, there are complaints from the residents, and not a lot of revenue is generated Sue would prefer to stop sending them. Rosanne made a motion to eliminate the Inventory Forms as of January 2009. Wes seconded the motion and the motion passed with two in favor and one against. The use of Inventory Forms will be revisited next year.

Sue updated the Selectmen on the town mapping and other vendors interested in the job. It was decided to remain with Cartographics. They have done a good job and we have used them for a number of years.

A legal notice has been placed in the newspaper for the Budget Hearing on January 13th.

Sue has worked with the DRA on Elderly Exemptions and will be working on Current Use updates next year.

A discussion about the trees blocking the view from Meadow Road at Route 87 took place and Wes will speak with Ms. Libby for her final approval to cut down the trees that have been marked by the Highway Department. The Highway Department will also cut up the tree that is blocking the entrance to the Route 108 Cemetery.

The Vienneau property plans have come a long way and the Planning Board should be voting on it in January or February 2009.

The Selectmen opted not to have volunteers sign a Service Agreement.

The NH Department of Health & Human Services advises that they will award \$6,064.00 to the Town for Mosquito Control. The Town had asked for \$9,475.00 so Michael will draft a letter asking for an additional \$3,411.00.

Departments were reminded that all non-salaried employees must sign their time sheets.

It was noted that the American Red Cross would not supply cots, blankets, food, etc. to the Newfields Town Shelter during the ice storm.

Costs of the Highway Department related to the recent ice storm will be charged to the Emergency Management Department. Brian Knipstein will be asked to add more detail to his invoice in order for it to be submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

Checks were signed.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Timber was signed.

A letter to Constance and Harold Pevear was signed.

Rosanne will research the 5 year Multi-Year Discount Program Agreement with Primex on the property and liability coverage.

The renewal Dental Coverage Agreement with the Local Government Center was signed.

A letter was received from the Newfields Village Water & Sewer Department indicating that they do not wish to purchase the landlocked parcel off of Piscassic Road at this time. They may want to go through with the purchase at a later date.

Action on correspondence from the Lane Law Offices is currently on hold.

Correspondence from the NH Department of Revenue was reviewed along with a memo from the NH Department of Environmental Services.

Comcast will now offer the HD Triple Play bundle in Newfields.

Candidacy openings for the March 2009 elections were reviewed. Wes announced that he will run for re-election as a Selectman in 2009. His hope is to make Newfields carbon neutral with the installation of a wind turbine along with forming a municipal power company.

Michael made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 16th, 2008 meeting as amended. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Twenty-four hour police coverage was discussed and the members of the Budget Advisory Committee agreed with the Selectmen that this should be a Warrant Article rather than being included in the Police Department budget line. This lets the residents know that currently 24 hour protection is not provided by the Newfields Police Department and what the additional cost would be to add a permanent part-time officer to the roster.

Currently for those hours when Newfields does not have an officer on duty, Newmarket or Stratham would be dispatched to cover any violent or life or death situation in Newfields along with the State Police.

Rosanne feels that the Town should take care of their residents and thus have 24 hour coverage. Michael feels it is reasonable to have 24 hour coverage.

A discussion took place about additional hours for the Police Department Administrative Assistant. This was tabled until next week's meeting.

The Budget Advisory Committee and the Selectmen agreed that Mosquito Control should remain as a Warrant Article and not be included in the budget.

Chief Reed advised that the projected savings to switch the Town's telephone systems is \$3,000. There is a one-time fee of \$500. to make the change. The downside is that the new carrier may not be as efficient as the carriers we use now.

We made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm. Rosanne seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant